

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011

Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to:
Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010.**
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Project Details

1. Project title:

Pacific Northwest Streams

2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):

Recipient of Funds:
U.S. Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C., 20250-0003

Requester:
The Nature Conservancy
821 SE 14th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214-2537

3. Contact information

- a. **Project's primary contact:** Michael Dennis, The Nature Conservancy
- b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-802-8100
- c. **Email Address:** Michael_dennis@tnc.org
- d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address):
Pacific Northwest Streams funds distinct acquisitions throughout Oregon and Washington.

The Nature Conservancy closed on the acquisition of parcels located in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest on Chesnimnus Creek and Big Sheep Creek in Wallowa County that are priorities for Pacific Northwest Streams funds.

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.

The Nature Conservancy is a private, international, non-profit organization that preserves plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. To date the Conservancy has been responsible for the protection of more than 12 million acres in the United States and has helped preserve more than 80 million acres in Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific. In Oregon, the Conservancy owns or manages 46 nature preserves and has helped protect over 500,000 acres of important habitats, with support from about 23,000 household members.

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

Private non-profit 501(c)3 organization

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

U.S. Forest Service (funded via the Interior appropriations bill)
Land and Water Conservation Fund

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

Using Land and Water Conservation Funds, the Pacific Northwest Streams program funds distinct acquisitions of lands from willing sellers throughout U.S. Forest Service Region 6 to help protect and restore key stream and riparian areas for anadromous fish recovery.

At the recommendation of the Forest Service and local community, The Nature Conservancy purchased properties in Wallowa County on Big Sheep Creek and Chesnimnus Creek that are top priorities for acquisition by the Forest Service through the Pacific Northwest Streams program. Totaling 787 acres, these inholdings are located in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest on the border of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Acquisition of these inholdings will protect public access for hunting, fishing and hiking, plus protect critical habitat for steelhead, bull trout, and Chinook salmon. Before they were purchased, the properties were being marketed as 240-acre recreational homesites.

The Conservancy is not directly involved in the other acquisitions represented by Pacific Northwest Streams; the U.S. Forest Service has information regarding other acquisitions around Oregon.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

The purpose of the Pacific Northwest Streams Program is to increase protection and restoration of key stream and riparian areas needed for salmon recovery in Oregon and Washington.

Key priority parcels that would be targeted include 787 acres within the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and adjacent to Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The properties are on Chesnimnus Creek and Big Sheep Creek, both of which support habitat for threatened fish species and flow into designated Wild or Wild and Scenic Rivers. Critically for the local community, the protection of the Big Sheep Creek and Chesnimnus Creek properties will ensure public access for hunting, fishing, and hiking. These lands are among the highest priorities for acquisition by the Forest Service's Region 6 because of their ecological significance and identification as some of the last remaining private inholdings in the area. The overall purchase price of the Chesnimnus and Big Sheep Creek properties is approximately \$738,000.

In addition to protecting public access, the acquisition of these inholdings will enable the Forest Service to manage the landscape as a cohesive unit in the face of issues like wildfire and invasive species. Public ownership of these inholdings will prevent private development, thus ensuring the Forest Service need not take on the costly task of protecting private homes from wildfire damage.

While the acquisition itself will contribute to job creation in a minor way (appraisals, title search, etc.), once the property is acquired the community should expect jobs associated with forest and habitat restoration and other conservation work.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

Yes

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, Land and Water Conservation Fund

Previous funding:

Year:	Amount:
FY08	\$750,000
FY07	\$500,000
FY05	\$1,479,000
FY04	\$1,851,896
FY03	\$3,400,000
FY02	\$4,300,000
FY01	\$1,500,000
FY00	\$3,000,000
FY99	\$2,500,000

FY98	\$2,500,000
FY97	\$2,500,000
FY96	\$1,300,000
FY95	\$1,509,000
FY94	\$1,900,000

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project:

\$1,500,000

(Pacific Northwest Streams is in the President's Budget Proposal for \$1,500,000.)

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

The funds will be used by the U.S. Forest Service for habitat acquisition.

12. What is the total cost of the project?

Since 1994, almost \$29,000,000 of Land and Water Conservation Funds have been invested in the Pacific Northwest Streams program.

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?

Yes

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

The Nature Conservancy purchased the properties targeted for Pacific Northwest Streams funds by taking on debt. As such, the Conservancy will be contributing an estimated \$170,000 to \$230,000 in interest payments, debt payment, and other costs as part of the overall effort to protect these properties and place them into public hands.

Since 1997, Bonneville Power Administration has contributed \$2,500,000 for acquisition and restoration of key fish habitat along the Imnaha River.

The Nature Conservancy's Oregon and Idaho chapters have partnered with regional Cooperative Weed Management Areas to locate, contain, and eradicate invasive noxious weeds within priority areas of Hells Canyon for years; to date, over \$1 million has been spent managing invasive plant species in the region.

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

- Wallowa County Board of Commissioners
- Nez Perce Tribe

- Wallowa Resources
- Hells Canyon Preservation Council
- Tony White, member, Oregon Hunters Assn.
- Wallowa Land Trust
- Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- NOAA Fisheries
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Roberts Land and Cattle
- Jean Pekarek, Wallowa County resident

Please return this form no later than Friday, February 26, 2010 via email to:

Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov

Washington, D.C. Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Stephanie Cappa, 202-225-4811, Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov

Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov